

Senate
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD
FEBRUARY 7, 1967

A meeting of the Judiciary Committee was held at 2:00 P.M., Tuesday, February 7, 1967, in Room 56, Capitol Building, Chairman Monroe presiding.

Members Present:

Warren L. Monroe, Chairman
V. L. Bunker
M. J. Christensen
Carl F. Dodge
Procter Hug, Sr.
Coe Swobe

Members Absent:

C. Clifton Young

Also Present:

Senator Helen Herr
Senator Casey Fisher
Robert McAdams, Bell of Nevada
Joe Jackson, Nevada State Journal
Vicki Nash

Chairman Monroe invited Mr. McAdams to address the Committee relative to the provisions in Assembly Bill 92.

Mr. McAdams commented that as they probably knew, one of the most annoying things that can happen is to have someone call on the phone for no better reason than harrassment. Some people call to harrass young girls, make obscene suggestions, or perhaps just ot "breath" into the phone, and they (Bell of Nevada) are expected to take positive action. Mr. McAdams suggested an amendment to cover the "breathers" so that this type of call would also be subject to law enforcement. The methods of tracing calls was discussed at some length. Mr. McAdams advised that the only way the police can cope with the anonymous caller is to catch him and bluff him into a confession. With the adoption of A.B. 92 the police will have a law under which to prosecute. He was asked if the number of complaints were substantial, to which he replied that it varied, sometimes they would receive three or four and then for a couple of weeks, none. He also mentioned that, in California, after adopting a similar law, they had been able to obtain convictions and as a consequence the number of complaints had noticeably lessened. Chairman Monroe read the proposed amendment.

Disposition: ON MOTION of Senator Dodge, seconded by Senator Bunker, it was unanimously agreed to "Do Pass Assembly Bill 92 as Amended."

Mr. McAdams left the meeting at 2:20 P.M.

Chairman Monroe advised the Committee that Senator Herr was available for discussion of Bills she had introduced.

S.B. 67 "Requires that justices of the peace be attorneys in certain townships."

Senator Herr stated that actually she has introduced three bills which are similar intent; annely, to upgrade the quality

of certain civil positions. It was her contention that, especially in the larger counties, Clark and Washoe, that better qualified persons should be acting in the positions of Justice of the Peace and Coroner. She also mentioned that it was her opinion that a Coroner should be a licensed physician. Senator Christensen asked what provision would be made in the event that a "non-attorney" Justice of the Peace was required for some reason to serve where the requirement was that he be an attorney. Mrs. Herr replied that now that there were two in Clark County it wouldn't happen very often. She said that the Bill could be amended to provide for emergency situations.

Senator Monroe asked what effect the Bill would have on incumbent Justices who are not attorneys. Senator Bunker replied that they would serve until the end of their present term and could not run for election again -- it is rather discriminatory legislation.

Senator Dodge commented that this is related to the jurisdictional problems. Actually, Justice Courts hear very few criminal proceedings and the value is limited in civil cases. He also suggested that before processing this Bill the Committee should set a Hearing for the Bar to testify. Senator Swobe commented that along this line, the Bar would like to have a revision of our judicial system which would include the Justice Court.

S.B. 68 "Provides for summary eviction or exclusion of certain tenants."

Senator Herr advised that this legislation had been requested by the Apartment House Owners Association in Las Vegas. She said that, at the present time, there is no way to evict for non-payment of rent without it taking quite some time. The tenants stay in the building without paying their rent and the owner is paying mortgage payments.

Senator Herr also advised the Committee that she would like the Bill amended to delete Lines 22, 23 and 24 inclusive.

Senator Dodge asked if there were similar provisions set up in other states. Senator Herr replied, yes, in California they have a very similar law.

Senator Swobe commented that it was possible to evict persons in five days, however, it was necessary to post bond.

Senator Monroe is to check with Frank Daykin relative to the laws on this subject in other states, especially California.

Senator Herr further stated that, it was so important to the Apartment House Owners Association that, if there is any chance of losing the Bill, she would like to request a Public Hearing. Chairman Monroe assured her that this was very unlikely.

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S.B. 69 "Prohibits revealing of state employee's personnel records."

Senator Herr stated that this Bill had been requested by several people that had knowledge that use of State Personnel information was being handed around very freely -- in the form of gossip.

Senator Dodge commented that he would like to hear the Personnel Director's comments as to whether there were conditions under which he feels these records should not be retained as "confidential records."

S.B. 91 "Allows certain elected municipal judges to solemnize marriages."

Senator Herr advised that this legislation had been requested by Judge Richards and would apply in Washoe and Clark Counties. It would augment their salaries.

Senator Dodge said that he thought that this would be a good bill to hang the amendment on, to put all the money so collected into the County Funds. ON MOTION of Senator Dodge, seconded by Senator Hug, it was moved "That all marriage fees collected by an elected official shall be put into county funds, but not to affect anyone in present term of office." The members of the Committee voted as follows on roll call:

Senator Bunker	Nay
Senator Christensen	Abstain
Senator Hug	Aye
Senator Dodge	Aye
Senator Hug	Aye
Senator Swobe	Aye

S.B. 103 "Simplifies procedure for reappointment as notary public."

Senator Herr advised that, at the present time when a notarial appointment expires it is necessary to make application again rather than apply for a renewal. The Bill would make it possible to simplify the procedure.

Senator Swobe commented that he recommended the passage and would like to see it effective immediately. Senator Dodge commented that the effective date should not be other than normal unless it is an emergency as it makes it very difficult for people to have an opportunity to familiarize themselves with the provisions.

Disposition: ON MOTION of Senator Bunker, seconded by Senator Christensen, it was unanimously agreed to "Do Pass S. B. 103."

Senator Herr left the meeting.

Senator Dodge commented that relative to S.B. 67, in the larger counties this would give them justification for enlargement of the jurisdiction.

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S.B. 58 "Extends time within which notice of right to claim mechanic's lien must be given."

After discussion of the subject, Senator Swobe suggested that the Committee delay consideration until all the Bills covering the subject of liens have been received. The Committee concurred.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.